

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN BILL TASH**, on March 24, 2003 at 3:34 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bill Tash, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Sherm Anderson (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)  
Sen. Dan McGee (R)  
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)  
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)  
Sen. Debbie Shea (D)  
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch  
Roberta Opel, Committee Secretary

**Video-taped Committee:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 505, 3/24/2003; HB 545,  
3/24/2003; HB 709, 3/24/2003  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON HB 505**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:** REP. STEVE GALLUS, HD 35, Butte, presented HB 505 to the committee; ponds non-consumptive use of water. **EXHIBIT**(nas62a01) and **EXHIBIT**(nas62a02)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

3:47pm John Wilson, representing MT. Trout Unlimited  
3:53pm John Youngberg, on behalf of MT. Farm Bureau and MT. Stockgrower's Association  
3:55pm Holly Franz, on behalf of Pacific Power & Light (PPL) and Montana Water Resources Association  
3:56pm Sarah McCullough, MT. Audubon Society

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Witnesses and Testimony:**

3:57pm Larry Peterman, Chief of Operations, MT. Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP)  
4:00pm Jack Stults, Administrator, Water Resources Division, MT. Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

4:07pm Begin  
4:25pm End  
18 min Elapsed time

**Closing by Sponsor:**

4:26pm SEN. GALLUS closed the hearing on HB 505.

**HEARING ON HB 545**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:** REP. DICK HAINES, HD 63, Missoula, presented HB 545; regarding statutory water quality permit fees for suction dredge operations. **EXHIBIT**(nas62a03)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

4:35pm Angela Janacaro, MT. Mining Association  
4:37pm Gary Hall, member Northwest MT. Gold Prospector's **EXHIBIT**(nas62a04)  
4:42pm Alan McClintock, Victor, MT.  
4:47pm Virgil Roper, representing Gold Prospector's of America, distributed a report from Josiah Cornell, regarding suction

dredging **EXHIBIT**(nas62a05) Handouts from California Dept. of Fish and

Game **EXHIBIT**(nas62a06) and State of Idaho, Dept. of Water

Resources **EXHIBIT**(nas62a07) were distributed

4:52pm Ted Antinolli, Missoula, MT.

4:53pm Morris Johnson, Kalispell, MT.

4:54pm Bill Gross, Kalispell, MT.

4:55pm Alan Gilda, representing himself

**Opponents' Testimony:**

4:56pm **REP. BRUCE MALCOLM, HD 25, Emigrant**

5:01pm John Wilson, representing MT. Trout Unlimited

**EXHIBIT**(nas62a08)

5:10pm Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

5:12pm Michele Reinhart, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

**Informational Witnesses and Testimony:**

5:13pm Steve Welch, MT. Dept. of Environmental Quality

5:14pm Steve Granzow, Director, MT. Association of Conservation Districts

5:14pm Sarah Carlson, MT. Association of Conservation Districts

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

5:15pm Begin

5:37pm End

22 min Elapsed time

**Informational Witnesses and Testimony:**

Tom Reid, Supervisor, Permits Section, MT. Dept. of EQC

**EXHIBIT**(nas62a09)

**Closing by Sponsor:**

5:37pm **REP. HAINES** closed the hearing on HB 545.

**HEARING ON HB 709**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:** **REP. CHRISTOPHER HARRIS, HD 30, Bozeman**, opened the hearing on HB 709; to revise remedial action upon release of hazardous substance laws. **EXHIBIT**(nas62a10)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

5:53pm **REP. GARY FORRESTER, HD 16, Lockwood**

5:59pm Sarah McCullough, MT. Audubon Society

**Opponents' Testimony:**

6:00pm Sandi Olsen, Division Administrator, Remediation Division,  
MT. Dept. of Environmental Quality **EXHIBIT(nas62a11)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

6:03pm Begin

6:10pm End

7 min Elapsed time

**Closing by Sponsor:**

6:10pm **REP. HARRIS** closed the hearing on HB 709. **SEN. BEA  
MCCARTHY** will carry this bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 6:14 P.M.

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SEN. BILL TASH, Chairman

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ROBERTA OPEL, Secretary

BT/RO

**EXHIBIT (nas62aad)**